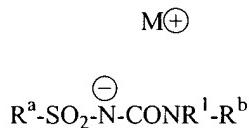


AMENDMENT

- 1-18. (Cancelled).
19. (New) A formulation, comprising:
- a) at least one phosphonium or sulfonium salt of a sulfonylurea, where the phosphonium and sulfonium cation of the salt has at least one substituent which is different from hydrogen, and
 - b) customary auxiliaries and additives.
20. (New) The formulation according to claim 19, further comprising at least one quaternary phosphonium salt or at least one tertiary sulfonium salt of a sulfonylurea.
21. (New) A formulation according to claim 19, further comprising at least one sulfonylurea salt of the formula (la):



(la)

wherein R^a is a substituted aliphatic, aromatic or heterocyclic radical or an electron-withdrawing group;

R^b is a heterocyclyl radical,

wherein:

R¹ is H or C₁-C₁₀-hydrocarbon radical,

R² is a substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₂₀-hydrocarbon radical,

R³ is a substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₂₀-hydrocarbon radical,

R⁴ is halogen, a substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₂₀-hydrocarbon radical or C₁-C₂₀-hydrocarboxy radical,

R⁵ is H, halogen, or a substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₂₀-hydrocarbon radical or C₁-C₂₀-hydrocarboxy radical, which may be substituted by one or more radicals from the group consisting of halogen and (C₁-C₃)-alkoxy, or (C₁-C₅)-alkoxy which may be substituted by one or more radicals from the group consisting of halogen and (C₁-C₃)-alkoxy,

R⁶ and R^{6'} are identical or different and are H or a substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₂₀-hydrocarbon radical, where R⁶ and R^{6'} may form an unsubstituted or substituted ring,

R⁷ is H, halogen, OH, NR^xR^y, in which R^x and R^y are H or (C₁-C₃)-alkyl, or R⁷ is N-(C₁-C₃)-alkyl-N-acylamino or N-acylamino or a substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₂₀-hydrocarbon radical or hydrocarboxy radical,

R^{6''} is a substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₂₀-hydrocarbon radical,

R^{7'} is H, halogen, OH, NR^xR^y, in which R^x and R^y are H or (C₁-C₃)-alkyl, or R^{7'} is N-(C₁-C₃)-alkyl-N-acylamino, N-acylamino or a substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₂₀-hydrocarbon radical or a C₁-C₂₀-hydrocarboxy radical,

R^{6'''} is halogen, or a substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₂₀-hydrocarbon-containing radical, which may be substituted by one or more radicals from the group consisting of halogen and (C₁-C₃)-alkoxy, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy which may be substituted by one or more radicals from the group consisting of halogen or (C₁-C₃)-alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy carbonyl, substituted or unsubstituted dialkylaminocarbonyl, substituted or unsubstituted (C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfonyl, (C₁-C₆)-mono- or -dialkylamino, N-(C₁-C₆)-alkyl-N-acylamino or N-acylamino,

$R^{7''}$ is H, halogen, OH, NR^xR^y , in which R^x and R^y are H or (C_1 - C_3)-alkyl, or $R^{7''}$ is a substituted or unsubstituted C_1 - C_{20} -hydrocarbon radical or hydrocarboxy radical,

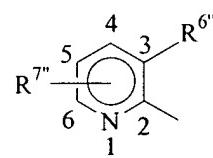
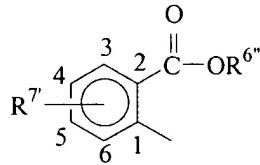
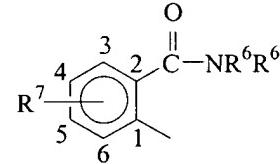
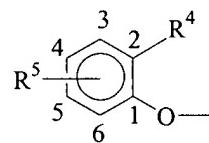
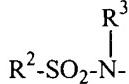
M^+ is a quaternary phosphonium ion or a tertiary sulfonium ion,

X is substituted or unsubstituted (C_1 - C_6)-alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxy, halogen, substituted or unsubstituted (C_1 - C_6)-mercaptoalkyl or (C_1 - C_3)-mono- or (C_1 - C_3)-dialkylamino,

Y is substituted or unsubstituted (C_1 - C_6)-alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxy, halogen, substituted or unsubstituted (C_1 - C_6)-mercaptoalkyl or (C_1 - C_3)-mono- or (C_1 - C_3)-dialkylamino, and

Z is a C-halogen or Cl, CH or N.

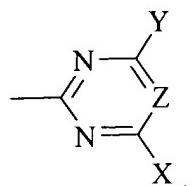
22. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein the electron withdrawing group is a substituted sulfonamide radical
23. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein R^a is a radical of the formula (II)-(IVc):



24. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein R^b is a nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl radical.

25. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein R^b is a heterocyclyl radical having 2 or 3 nitrogen atoms in the ring.

26. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein R^b is a radical of the formula:



27. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein R¹ is a substituted or unsubstituted (C₁-C₆)-alkyl.

28. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein R² is a substituted or unsubstituted (C₁-C₆)-alky, substituted or unsubstituted (C₂-C₆)-alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted (C₂-C₆)-alkynyl, or substituted or unsubstituted (C₃-C₇)-cycloalkyl.

29. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein R³ is a substituted or unsubstituted (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted (C₂-C₆)-alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted (C₂-C₆)-alkynyl, or substituted or unsubstituted (C₃-C₇)-cycloalkyl.

30. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein said halogen is F, Cl, Br or I.

31. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein Z is CF, CCl, or CBr.

32. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein R⁴ is a (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₂-C₆)-alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)-alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy, (C₃-C₆)-alkenyloxy or a (C₃-C₆)-alkynyoxy, substituted or unsubstituted by one or more radicals.

33. (New) The formulation according to claim 32, wherein said radical is halogen or (C₁-C₃)-alkoxy.
34. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein R⁵ is a (C₁-C₆)-alkyl.
35. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein R⁶ and R^{6'} are C₁-C₆-alkyl.
36. (New) The formulation according to claim 35, wherein said C₁-C₆-alkyl is Me, Et, ⁿPr, ⁱPr or ^cPR.
37. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein R⁷ is a (C₁-C₃)-alkyl, (C₁-C₃)-haloalkyl, halogen, (C₁-C₃)-alkyl-(N-(C₁-C₃)-alkyl-N-acylamino), (C₁-C₃)-alkyl-(N-acylamino) or (C₁-C₃)-alkoxy.
38. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein R^{6''} is a substituted or unsubstituted (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted (C₃-C₆)-alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted (C₃-C₆)-cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted (C₃-C₇)-alkynyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted (C₄-C₈)-cycloalkylalkyl.
39. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein R^{7'} is a (C₁-C₃)-alkyl, (C₁-C₃)-haloalkyl, (C₁-C₃)-alkyl-(N-(C₁-C₃)-alkyl-N-acylamino), (C₁-C₃)-alkyl-(N-acylamino) or (C₁-C₃)-alkoxy.
40. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein R^{6'''} is a (C₁-C₆)-alkyl.
41. (New) The formulation according to claim 21, wherein R^{7''} is a (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₁-C₆)-haloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy or (C₁-C₆)-haloalkoxy.
42. (New) The formulation according to claim 19, further comprising one or more agrochemicals which are different from the sulfonylurea salt defined in claim 21.
43. (New) The formulation according to claim 42, wherein said one or more agrochemicals is selected from the group consisting of herbicides, fungicides, insecticides, growth regulators, safeners and fertilizers.

44. (New) The formulation according to claim 44, wherein said one or more agrochemicals is an herbicide.
45. (New) The formulation according to claim 19, further comprising a wetting agent having bioactivating properties or a mixture of different wetting agents having bioactivating properties.
46. (New) The formulation according to claim 19, further comprising a pH-stabilizing substance or substance mixture.
47. (New) The formulation according to claim 19, further comprising a substance or substance mixture having antifoam properties.
48. (New) The formulation according to claim 19, further comprising a substance or substance mixture which acts as acid scavenger.
49. (New) The formulation according to claim 19, further comprising a substance or substance mixture which acts as a water scavenger.
50. (New) The formulation according to claim 19, further comprising a substance or substance mixture which acts as crystallization inhibitor.
51. (New) The formulation according to claim 19, further comprising a surfactant or surfactant mixture.
52. (New) The formulation according to claim 19, further comprising about 0.1-70.0% by weight of one or more phosphonium or sulfonium salts of sulfonylureas, about 5.0-95.0% by weight of a polar and/or hydrophobic solvent and about 2.0-40.0% by weight of a mixture of anionic and nonionic surfactants or a mixture of cationic and nonionic surfactants.
53. (New) An herbicidal or plant-growth-regulating composition, comprising the formulation as claimed in claim 19.

54. (New) A compound of the formula (la) as defined in claim 21.

55. (New) The compound according to claim 54, wherein

R¹ is H or Me,

R² is (C₁-C₃)-alkyl or (C₁-C₃)-haloalkyl,

R³ is (C₁-C₃)-alkyl or (C₁-C₃)-haloalkyl,

R⁴ is (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₁-C₆)-haloalkyl or (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy,

R⁵ is H, halogen, OMe, OEt, Me, CF₃,

R⁶ and R^{6'} are identical or different C₁-C₆-alkyl radicals,

R⁷ is H, Me, Et, CF₃, F, CL, Br, I, N[(C₁-C₃)-alkyl]-R⁸, NH-R⁹, CH₂N[(C₁-C₃)-alkyl]-R¹⁰, CH²NH-R¹¹, CH₂CH₂N[(C₁-C₃)-alkyl]-R¹², CH₂CH₂NH-R¹³, wherein the radicals R⁸ to R¹³ are H, (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₁-C₆)-haloalkyl, CHO, COO(C₁-C₆)-alkyl, COO(C₁-C₆)-haloalkyl, SO₂-(C₁-C₆)-alkyl, SO₂-(C₁-C₆)-haloalkyl, CO-(C₁-C₆)-alkyl or CO-(C₁-C₆)-haloalkyl,

R^{6''} is Me, Et, ⁿPr, ⁱPr, ^cPr, ⁿBu, ⁱBu, ^sBu, ^tBu, ^cBu,

R^{7'} is H, Me, Et, CF₃, F, CL, Br, I, N[(C₁-C₃)-alkyl]-R⁸, NH-(C₁-C₃)-alkyl, CH₂N[(C₁-C₃)-alkyl]-R¹⁰, CH₂NH-R¹¹, CH₂CH₂N[(C₁-C₃)-alkyl]-R¹², CH₂CH₂NH-R¹³, wherein the radicals R⁸ and R¹⁰ to R¹³ are H, (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₁-C₆)-haloalkyl, CHO, COO(C₁-C₆)-alkyl, COO(C₁-C₆)-haloalkyl, SO₂-(C₁-C₆)-alkyl, SO₂-(C₁-C₆)-haloalkyl, CO-(C₁-C₆)-alkyl or CO-(C₁-C₆)-haloalkyl,

R^{6'''} is Me, Et, Pr, CH₂CH₂CF₃, OMe, OEt, OⁱPr, OCH₂CH₂CL, F, CL, COOMe, COOEt, COOⁿPr, COOⁱPr, CONMe₂, CONEt₂, SO₂Me, SO₂Et, SO₂ⁱPr, unsubstituted or substituted NH-(C₁-C₆)-alkyl-acyl, unsubstituted or substituted NH-(C₃-C₇)-cycloalkyl,

unsubstituted or substituted (C_4 - C_8)-cycloalkylalkyl, unsubstituted or substituted N-(C_3 - C_7)-cycloalkyl-aryl, or an unsubstituted or substituted N-(C_4 - C_8)-cycloalkylalkyl-acyl,

R^7 is H, F, Cl, Me, Et, CF_3 , OCH_3 , OEt , OCH_2CF_3 ,

M^+ is $[SR^{18}R^{19}R^{20}]^+$ or $[PR^{21}R^{22}R^{23}R^{24}]^+$, where R^{18} to R^{25} are identical or different from one another and are substituted or unsubstituted (C_1 - C_{30})-alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted (C_1 - C_{10})-alkyl-(hetero)aryl, substituted or unsubstituted (C_3 - C_{30})-(oligo)alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted (C_3 - C_{10})-(oligo)alkenyl-(hetero)aryl, substituted or unsubstituted (C_3 - C_{30})-(oligo)alkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted (C_3 - C_{10})-(oligo)alkynyl-(hetero)aryl, substituted or unsubstituted (hetero)aryl, and where two radicals R^{18}/R^{19} , R^{21}/R^{22} and R^{23}/R^{24} together may form an unsubstituted or substituted ring,

X is Me, Et, Pr, iPr , CF_3 , CCl_3 , OMe, OEt , O^iPr , $OCHCl_2$, OCH_2CCl_3 , OCH_2CF_3 , F, Cl, Br, SMe, SEt, NHMe, NMe₂, NHEt,

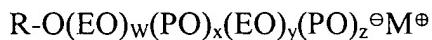
Y is Me, Et, Pr, iPr , CF_3 , CCL_3 , OMe, OEt , O^iPr , $OCHCl_2$, OCH_2CCL_3 , OCH_2CF_3 , F, Cl, Br, SMe, SEt, NHMe, NMe₂, NHEt,

and

Z is CH or N.

56. (New) The compound according to claim 55, wherein R^2 is Me or Et.
57. (New) The compound according to claim 55, wherein R^3 is Me and Et.
58. (New) The compound according to claim 55, wherein R^4 is Me, Et, OMe, OEt or CF_3 .
59. (New) The compound according to claim 55, wherein said halogen is as F, Cl, Br or I.
60. (New) The compound according to claim 55, wherein the radicals R^5 in the formula (III) which are different from hydrogen are located in the 5-position on the phenyl ring.

61. (New) The compound according to claim 55, wherein R⁶ = Me, R^{6'} = Me; R⁶ = Me, R^{6'} = Et and R^{6'} = Et, R⁶ = Et.
62. (New) The compound according to claim 55, wherein the radicals R⁷ in the formula (IVa) which are different from hydrogen are located in the 5-position on the phenyl ring.
63. (New) The compound according to claim 55, wherein R^{6''} is Me or Et.
64. (New) The compound according to claim 55, wherein the radicals R^{7'} in the formula (IVb) which are different from hydrogen are located in the 5-position on the phenyl ring.
65. (New) The compound according to claim 55, wherein R^{6'''} is N-(C₁-C₆)-alkyl-CHO, N-(C₁-C₆)-alkyl-CO-R, N-(C₁-C₆)-alkyl-SO₂R, NH-CHO, NH-CO-R or NHSO₂R, wherein the radicals R are (C₁-C₆)-(halo)-alkyl, (C₁-C₆)-(halo)-alkoxy, (C₁-C₃)-alkoxy-(C₁-C₆)-alkyl, (C₁-C₃)-alkoxy-(C₁-C₆)-alkoxy or mono- and di-(C₁-C₆)-alkylamino.
66. (New) The compound according to claim 55, wherein R^{7''} is H.
67. (New) The compound according to claim 55, wherein X is OMe, OEt, Me or Cl.
68. (New) The compound according to claim 55, wherein Y is OMe, OEt, Me or Cl.
69. (New) An herbicidal or plant-growth-regulating composition, comprising one or more compounds of the formula (la) as claimed in claim 55.
70. (New) A method for preparing an agrochemical formulation comprising components a) and b) as claimed in claim 19, comprising the step of using a compound of the formula (XVIII):



(XVIII)

wherein:

w, x, y and z independently of one another are integers from 0 to 50,

R is an unsubstituted or substituted C₈-C₄₀-hydrocarbon,

EO is an ethoxy unit,

PO is a propoxy unit and

M[⊕] is a phosphonium or sulfonium ion.